

News Release Maryland National Guard



Major General Bruce F. Tuxill, The Adjutant General

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT: Maj. Charles Kohler, Public Affairs Officer

Phone: 410-576-6179

e-mail: charles.kohler@md.ngb.army.mil

Date: March 4, 2004

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

MARYLAND NATIONAL GUARD UNIT DEPLOYS

BALTIMORE – Nearly 200 citizen-soldiers from three Maryland National Guard units are being called to federal active duty for one year to support Operation Noble Eagle providing force protection and perimeter security for critical installations.

The Light Antitank Battalion is having a mobilization ceremony at its headquarters in Chestertown on March 5 at 10 a.m. with the units from Elkton and Easton as they prepare for deployment to Aberdeen Proving Grounds, Alabama and Kentucky.

"We're very proud of our citizen-soldiers in Maryland, they continue to have a major part of America's war on terror," said Maj. Gen. Bruce F. Tuxill, the adjutant general of Maryland.

The units will deploy to Fort Dix, N.J., on March 9 for in processing into the active Army and will then report to their assignments in Maryland, Alabama and Kentucky.

In June 2003, the three companies that makeup the battalion transitioned from the 2-115th, a light infantry battalion, into three Light Antitank companies. The main weapon of a LAT company is the Hummve mounted tube launched, optically tracked wire guided missile system better known as the TOW.

Currently the Maryland National Guard has 1,100 solders and airmen deployed in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom, Enduring Freedom and Operation Noble Eagle. We

are serving at several locations around the world including Iraqi, Afghanistan, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Kosovo, Estonia, Liberia, Ukraine, Kuwait, West Africa, Oman, Albania, Pakistan and Uzbekistan. The Maryland National Guard has mobilized and deployed over 4,000 citizen-solders and airmen since September 11, 2001.

-30-

Members of the media are invited to film and interview the soldiers at 10 a.m. at the SFC John H. Newman Armory, 509 Cross Street, Chestertown, Md. 21620